

ILLEGIB

Approved For Release 2003/06/17 : CIA-RDP80R01731R003100190073-2
7 January 1952

Colonel Sherrell called at 3:00 PM and dictated the following message:

"From CINCPAC, Tokyo, signed Ridgeway. Classified RESTRICTED. To DA Wash DC for McAuliffe.

Part I The following information was received this date from Hq FEAF regarding failure of Lt. Streit to return on 1 January 1952 from a combat mission over Korea:

- a. Lt Streit called to his leader that he had been hit and would bail out. They were in the path of target and leader was approximately 2000 ft. behind Lt. Streit.
- b. The leader was about 1500 ft behind Lt Streit when Streit's engine quit. When he put his air craft into a glide, Lt Streit was about 800ft. above ground. Lt Streit released the canopy and bailed out at about 500 ft. Leader saw parachute stream out but had not fully opened when he lost sight of Lt Streit. The ground was completely blanketed with snow. The terrain was hilly and rugged. The aircraft crashed against a hill about 500 ft from base of hill.
- c. No. 2 man went in first on the target so did not see Lt Streit bail out nor did he see Lt Streit's parachute after he pulled up off the target.
- d. No. 1 and No. 2 men flew over the area at very low passes for approximately one hour when they were forced to leave because of low fuel.
- e. In the meantime, another flight had arrived in the area to assist with the search but they never saw Lt Streit or his parachute. Another aircraft on this particular flight was damaged and the pilot bailed out in the same area. He too was lost from flight.
- f. The helicopter that was in the area was damaged and had to/continue the search. dis
- g. Location. (Not mentioned for security reasons).

h. The names of Lt Streit's No. 1 and No. 2 men are:

No. 1, Leader - Capt V. E. Bocquin, AO 814639
No. 2 - David K. Merrill, 18618A

Part II. No other information is available upon which to base evaluation of present status. Please inform Gen Streit that I will personally follow up and report on this case.

END

Another message in the form of a query has been sent and additional information will probably be received soon.

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(SENDER WILL CIRCLE CLASSIFICATION TOP AND BOTTOM)

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP		
TO	INITIALS	DATE
1 DD/P		4 Feb.
2 E.R.		
3		
4		
5		
FROM	INITIALS	DATE
1 Ass't to the Director	J.E.S.	1/10/52
2		
3		

APPROVAL INFORMATION SIGNATURE
 ACTION DIRECT REPLY RETURN
 COMMENT PREPARATION OF REPLY DISPATCH
 CONCORRENCE RECOMMENDATION FILE

REMARKS: Please note the Director's comment at the top of the page of the attached memo. The DCI desires that as a matter of priority "our people" be contacted and directed to furnish any information they may be able to develop concerning Lt. Streit. *[Signature]*

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